Policy for Penicillin import

1921. SHRI M. P. KAUSHICK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India have recently formulated a policy for the import of Penicillin for the production of 6-APA;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain producers of 6-APA were already holding import licences of Penicillin in hand at the time of formulation of policy;

(d) if so number and names of such drug units who were already having import licences for Pencillin before finalisation formulation of the policy; and

(e) whether Government of India propose to inquire into the matter under what circumstances the licences were issued before the formation/finalisation of the policy and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Penicillin G/Penicillin V figures in Appendix 3 under the head 'list of limited permissible items' in the Import & Export Policy April '85 to March 88. Indigenous availability of Potassium Penicillin G/V First Crystals is not adequate to meet the requirement of 6-APA producers. Imports of Penicillin are therefore, allowed based on the ratio of 70 per cent imports and 30 per cent indigenous. Imports are considered on replenishment basis after satisfying the above criteria.

(c) Certain producers of 6-APA were having import licences for Potassium Penicillin G/V First Crystals which were issued during the last financial year.

(d) The names of major units/interalia holding such import licences are:

(1) Gujarat Lyka.

(2) Max India Ltd.

(e) No, Sir. The quantity of stock of imported Penicillin G/V First Crystals and the quantity in pipeline available against such licences on 1st April, 1986 is adjusted while allowing future imports.

Production of 6-APA

1922. SHRI M. P. KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Drug manufacturing units in the country had developed sometime back technology for production of 6-APA from penicillin in the country itself;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some drug manufacturing units in the country have either purchased technical know-how or made certain arrangements with foreign companies for the production of 6-APA from penicillin-G;

(c) what are the details of the arrangements made by each alongwith the technical know-how together with fees paid;

(d) if so, the names of such units;

(e) what are the reasons for granting permission by Government to such drug manufacturing units for the purchase of technical know-how when indigenous capability was available; and

(f) whether Government propose to inquire into the matter as to how and under what circumstances the permission was granted and if not the reasons thereof?